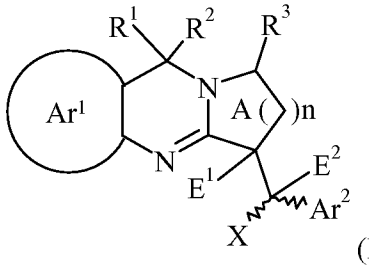
Current Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound of formula (I):



(I),

wherein

R^1 and R^2 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_2-C_6-alkenyl, C_2-C_6-alkinyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl-C_1-C_6-alkyl, $-NH_2$, $-NH(C_1$-C_6-alkyl), $-N(C_1$-C_6-alkyl)$_2$, aryl or aryl-C_1-C_6-alkyl group, wherein any of these groups may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OR^6, SR^6, cyano, $COOR^6$, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, SOR^6, SO_2R^6 and C_1-C_6-haloalkyl,

R^1 and R^2 together with the interjacent carbon atom form a 3- to 8-membered cycloalkyl ring, which may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1-C_6-alkyl, OR^6, SR^6, cyano and C_1-C_6-haloalkyl or

R^1 and R^2 form together a group $=NR^4$;

R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1-C_{18}-alkyl, C_2-C_6-alkenyl, C_2-C_6-alkinyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl-C_1-C_6-alkyl, aryl, or aryl-C_1-C_6-alkyl, $COOR^5$, CR^6R^7OH or $CONR^6R^7$ group, wherein any of these groups may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OR^6, SR^6, CN, $COOR^6$, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, SOR^6, SO_2R^6 and C_1-C_6-haloalkyl;

R^4 represents a hydrogen atom or a $COOR^5$, COR^5, OR^6, cyano or nitro group; or a C_1-C_6-alkyl group, which , may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OR^6, SR^6, CN, $COOR^6$, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, SOR^6, SO_2R^6 and C_1-C_6-haloalkyl; or

R^2 and R^3 together with the interjacent group $-CR^1$-N-CH- form a 5- to 8-membered ring; or

R^3 and R^4 together with the interjacent group -N=C-N-CH- form a 5- to 8-membered ring;

R^5 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1-C_{18}-alkyl, C_2-C_6-alkenyl, C_2-C_6-alkinyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl-C_1-C_6-alkyl, aryl or aryl-C_1-C_6-alkyl group , wherein

any of these groups may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, OR^6, SR^6, CN, $COOR^6$, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, SOR^6, SO_2R^6 and C_1-C_6-haloalkyl;

R^6 and R^7 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a C_1-C_{18}-alkyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl aryl or aryl-C_1-C_6-alkyl group; or

R^6 and R^7 together with the interjacent nitrogen atom form a 3-8-membered heterocyclic ring;

E^1 and E^2 each represent a hydrogen atom or taken together form a double bond;

X represents a hydrogen or halogen atom, or a C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_2-C_6-alkenyl, C_2-C_6-alkinyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl-C_1-C_6-alkyl, OR^6, SR^6, NR^6R^7 or aryl;

the ring A may be substituted by one or more group R^6;

Aryl, Ar^1 and Ar^2 each independently represent a 6- to 10-membered homoaromatic group or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaromatic group containing up to three heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur; wherein each of these groups may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6-alkyl, phenyl, halogen, OR^6, SR^6, cyano, nitro, $COOR^6$, COR^6, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, $NR^6SO_2R^5$, SOR^6, SO_2R^6, $SO_2NR^6R^7$, C_1-C_6-haloalkyl, C_1-C_6-haloalkoxy and C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl; and

n represents ~~an integer from~~ 1 ~~to 4~~,

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 2 (original): The compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein

Aryl, Ar^1 and Ar^2 each independently are selected from the group consisting of phenyl, thienyl, furanyl, pyrrolyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, naphthyl, benzothiophenyl, indolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl and imidazolyl, wherein each of these groups may be substituted by one two or three substituents selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6-alkyl, halogen, OR^6, SR^6, cyano, nitro, $COOR^6$, COR^6, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, $NR^6SO_2R^5$, SOR^6, SO_2R^6, $SO_2NR^6R^7$, C_1-C_6-haloalkyl, C_1-C_6-haloalkoxy and C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The compound of formula I according to claim 2, wherein

wherein

R^1 and R^2 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a C_1-C_6-alkyl group,

R^1 and R^2 form together a group $=NR^4$;

R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_1-C_{18}-alkyl group,

R^4 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C_1-C_6-alkyl or cyano group,

E^1 and E^2 taken together form a double bond;

Ar^1 represents a phenyl, thiophene or furane group, which may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6-alkyl, halogen, OR^6, SR^6, cyano, nitro, $COOR^6$, COR^6, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, $NR^6SO_2R^5$, SOR^6, SO_2R^6, $SO_2NR^6R^7$, C_1-C_6-haloalkyl and C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl,

Ar^2 represents a phenyl, thienyl or furanyl group, which may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6-alkyl, halogen, OR^6, SR^6, cyano, nitro, $COOR^6$, COR^6, $CONR^6R^7$, NR^6R^7, NR^6COR^5, $NR^6SO_2R^5$, SOR^6, SO_2R^6, $SO_2NR^6R^7$, C_1-C_6-haloalkyl, C_1-C_6-haloalkoxy and C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl ~~,~~

~~n represents 1 or 2~~ .

Claim 4 (currently amended): The compound of formula I according to claim 3, wherein

R^1 and R^2 represent a hydrogen atom, or

R^1 and R^2 form together a group $=NR^4$;

R^3 and R^4 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C_1-C_6-alkyl group,

E^1 and E^2 taken together form a double bond;

Ar^1 represents a phenyl, thiophene or furane group, which may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6-alkyl, halogen, C_1-C_6-haloalkyl and C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl,

Ar^2 represents a phenyl, thienyl or furanyl group, which may be substituted by a halogen atom,

~~n represents 1;~~ and

X represents a hydrogen atom.

Claim 5 (original): The compound of formula I according to claim 4, wherein

Ar^2 represents a phenyl, thienyl or furanyl group, which is substituted by a halogen atom, in the ortho position.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): A method of treating a disease or condition chosen from: asthma, allergic rhinitis, hypersensitivity lung diseases, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, eosinophilic cellulitis, eosinophilic pneumonias, eosinophilic fasciitis, delayed-type hypersensitivity, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, interstitial lung disease associated with rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, ankylosing spondylitis, systemic sclerosis, Sjogren's syndrome, polymyositis, dermatomyositis, systemic anaphylaxis, hypersensitivity responses, drug allergies, eosinophilia-myalgia syndrome due to the ingestion of contaminated tryptophan and insect sting allergies, comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A method of treating a disease or condition chosen from: rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, multiple sclerosis, systemic lupus erythematosus, myasthenia gravis, juvenile onset diabetes, glomerulonephritis, autoimmune thyroiditis, Behcet's disease, graft rejection, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, spondyloarthropathies, scleroderma, psoriasis, dermatitis, eczema, atopic dermatitis, allergic contact dermatitis, urticaria, vasculitis, eosinophilic myositis, eosinophilic fasciitis, cancers with leukocyte infiltration of the skin or organs, reperfusion injury, atherosclerosis, hematologic malignancies, septic shock, endotoxic shock, polymyositis and dermatomyositis, comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

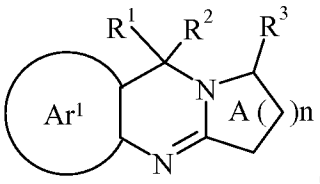
Claim 8 (withdrawn): A method of treating a disease or condition chosen from: immunodeficiency syndromes, immunosuppression resulting from therapy chosen from radiation therapy, chemotherapy, therapy for autoimmune disease and drug therapy, and immunosuppression due to congenital deficiency in receptor function, comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): A method of treating a disease or condition chosen from:

infections from helminth, filariasis, trematodes, cestodes or visceral worms, visceral larva migraines, eosinophilic gastroenteritis and cutaneous larva migraines
comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

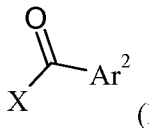
Claim 10 (original): A Pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): A Process of preparing a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, comprising:
reacting under suitable conditions in a suitable solvent a compound of formula (II)



(II),

wherein Ar^1, A, R^1, R^2, R^3 and n have the meaning given in claim 1,
with a compound of formula (III)



(II),

wherein Ar^2 and X have the meaning given in claim 1 and wherein if E^1 and E^2 are hydrogen atoms then optionally hydrogenating; and

subsequently isolating the product compound.